

From: Kelley Terry
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 2:03am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The settlement proposed is a nightmare. I look at going into programming and/or servicing linux based machines. According to the settlement the private non-profit organizations that need access to windows api's to make compatible code aren't even considered a business and are therefore denied access to windows code!! Absurd!! My understanding (perhaps limited) of patent or copyright law was that it was set up to provide protection against others using ideas that took time and effort to produce. That protection is good and it's primary purpose was to promote innovation and invention by giving financial security to the inventor so he could recoup his investment. Microsoft has taken the extreme position (and always has and always will if allowed) of using this copyright protection to promote a monopoly and thereby strangling rather than promoting innovation and invention. I'm no legal expert but that's obviously against the original, basic principles of copyrights.

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It said use windows 95 or better so I loaded linux!
In a world without walls and fences who needs windows and gates?
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